372 that the farmers have adequate firewood in their own forests at their disposal, it is no wonder that this is the type of fuel used exclusively in the rural areas in Finland.

365 The electrification of rural areas was well under way before the war and has progressed ever since with the establishment of new power stations, especially in northern Finland. In 1937 nearly half of the cultivated area in Finland was electrified. In the district of Uusimaa 52.5 per cent of the rural houses had electricity, in the former district of Vii[uri 47.1 per cent, in the district of Häme 37.4 per cent, in the district of Vaasa 32.2 per cent, and in the district of Turku and Pori 41.4 per cent. The worst off were parts of eastern and north-eastern Finland, the district Mikkeli having only 7.4 per cent electrified rural area, and the district of

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Kuopio 7:6 per cent. The cities, of course, have long been completely electrified.

Recently, more and more farmhouses have installed running water, but, characteristically, only after their barns and stall had been taken care of.

Various women's associations have made great efforts to improve the general living standards in the country. Mostly, the inadequate conditions have been caused by general disinterest rather than by actual lack of means.

Visitors have long commented on the cleanliness of the Finns, as shown in their dwellings, even the very modest ones, and in their personal hygiene. Of course there is still room for improvement, but it can at least be said that it is safe to eat and to drink anything anywhere in Finland, as far as cleanliness of the food is concerned.